AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A ~~home~~ network system, comprising:

at least [[two]] first and second electric devices; and

a network based on a predetermined protocol for connecting the first and second electric devices,

wherein ~~a message transmitted between one~~ the first electric device ~~and the other electric device comprises~~ generates and transmits a message comprising:

a command code field including a command code that is to be performed by the ~~other~~ second electric device, and

an argument field including [[the]] a number of arguments according to a version of [[a]] an applied protocol ~~applied to one electric device~~ for performing the command code,

~~wherein~~ and the ~~other~~ second electric device ~~executes a operation by using~~ receives the message from the first electric device, extracts the command code and as many arguments as necessary in the version of [[the]] an applied protocol ~~applied to the other electric device~~ from the message, discards remaining arguments when the remaining arguments exist, and executes a operation by using the extracted command code and arguments.

2. - 3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[2]] 1, wherein, when arguments included in the argument field of the message are deficient, the ~~other~~ second electric device sets the deficient arguments as predetermined values and executes the operation by using the extracted command code, the extracted arguments and the set arguments.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Currently Amended) An electric device <u>capable of communicating with another electric device through a network, receiving</u> ~~based on a predetermined protocol comprising:~~

~~at least a lower layer and an upper layer,~~

~~wherein the upper layer is configured to:~~

~~receive from the lower layer~~ a message including a command code field including a command code that is to be performed by the electric device, and an argument field including [[the]] <u>a</u> number of arguments according to a version of a protocol applied to the <u>other</u> electric device for performing the command code, <u>wherein the electric device is based on a predetermined protocol comprising:</u>

<u>at least a lower layer; and</u>

<u>an upper layer which is configured to:</u>

<u>receive from the lower layer the message,</u>

extract a command code from the message,

extract as many arguments as necessary in the version of the protocol applied to the electric device from the argument field, [[and]]

<u>discard remaining arguments when the remaining arguments exist; and</u>

execute the command code using the extracted arguments.

7.   (Canceled)

8.   (Currently Amended) The electric device of claim 6, wherein, when arguments included in the argument field of the message are deficient, the upper layer is configured to set the deficient arguments as predetermined values<u>, and executes the extracted command code using the extracted arguments and the set arguments</u>.

9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Currently Amended) A method for processing a message in a ~~home~~ network system, the ~~home~~ network system including at least ~~two~~ <u>first and second</u> electric devices, and a network based on a predetermined protocol for connecting the <u>first and second</u> electric devices, the method comprising the steps of:

generating and transmitting, at ~~one~~ <u>the first</u> electric device, a message including a command code field implying an operation that is to be performed by the ~~other electric device, and~~ <u>second electric device, and an argument field including a number of arguments according to a version of a protocol applied to the first electric device for performing the command code;</u>

~~an argument field including the number of arguments according to a version of a protocol applied to one~~ <u>receiving at the second</u> electric device<u>,</u> ~~for performing the command code;~~ <u>the message from the first electric device through the network;</u>

extracting, at the ~~other~~ <u>second</u> electric device, a command code from the message;

extracting, at the ~~other~~ <u>second</u> electric device, as many arguments as necessary in [[a]] <u>the</u> version of a protocol applied to the ~~other~~ <u>second</u> electric device<u>;</u>

<u>discarding, at the second electric device, remaining arguments when the remaining arguments exist</u>; and

executing, at the ~~other~~ <u>second</u> electric device, the command code <u>using the extracted arguments</u>.

11.   (Cancelled)

12.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising ~~a step~~ <u>steps</u> for setting deficient arguments as predetermined values, when arguments included in the argument field of the message are deficient<u>, and executing the extracted command code using the extracted arguments and the set arguments</u>.

13.-18. (Canceled)